Augustin Guitart interview (Sylvia Odio; Oswald's literature distribution)
Harold Weisberg 12/212/68

Guitart and his son share a building on Louisiana Avenue Parkway, the son living downstairs at 3607, the father upstairs at 3605.The father still teaches physics. The son is studying law. He was a lawyer in Cuba, proud of having tried 572 cases (and after spending part of an evening with him I wonder about the character of law practise in pre-Castro Cuba), but has a four-year course to qualify for the Louisiana bar. He rather bitterly refered to law as "Jew medicine". He is not very bright, a sort of quiet Bringuier in his attitudes, sees everything as a conspiracy, thought I was secretly taping his father but would not look inside my attache case when I opened it for him, etc.

The elder Guitart is satisfied Sylvia Odio is an honest woman and testified truthfully before the Warren Commission. The FBI reports on this are deceptive, for he never doubted her truthfulness. He says she had serious problems but was in no sense irresponsible, mentally ill, etc.

While she was hospitalized and during the period of her convalescence he and his family cared for her four children. When she visited him in March of 1964 it was to get her children. Her saw little of her then and spoke to her little because he had other guests, was working, and she was so glad to be with the children again she spent most of her time with them. She was with him for two days only.

After remarrying, Sylvia is divorced from that husband, married to another whose name Guitart said he did not know, and is in Miami. Her mother, who has completed her six-year sentence, also is in Miami. The Guitarts profess to be out of touch with the Odios.

Dr. Guitart considers himself a friend of Bringuier. At the time of the arrest Bringuier phoned him and excitedly told him about the affair, full of indignation. He did not see the literature distribution because he had classes. He went to the trial because he had no classes that day. He wanted to see Oswald and he sort of fortified his friend Bringuier.

He says he knows nothing at all about the literature distribution, nothing at all about anyone with Oswald. He says he has not heard others speak of those with Oswald. He knows and likes Bartes, did not know Arcacha, came to this country in 1962, regards himself as a guest in it.

duced to Mrs. Odio as "Leon Oswald," and she was told that he was very much interested in the Cuban cause.[713] Mrs. Odio said that the men told her that they had just come from New Orleans and that they were then about to leave on a trip.[714] Mrs. Odio testified that the next day Leopoldo called her on the telephone and told her that it was his idea to introduce the American into the underground "because he is great, he is kind of nuts."[715] Leopoldo also said that the American had been in the Marine Corps and was an excellent shot, and that the American said the Cubans "don't have any guts * * * because President Kennedy should have been assassinated after the Bay of Pigs, and some Cubans should have done that, because he was the one that was holding the freedom of Cuba actually."[716]

Although Mrs. Odio suggested doubts that the men were in fact members of JURE,[717] she is certain that the American who was introduced to her as Leon Oswald was Lee Harvey Oswald.[718] Her sister, who was in the apartment at the time of the ~~alleged~~ visit by the three men, ~~understandably~~ saw them briefly in the hallway when answering the door, also believed that the American was Lee Harvey Oswald.[719] By referring to the date on which she moved from her former apartment, October 1, 1963, Mrs. Odio fixed the date of the alleged visit on the Thursday or Friday immediately preceding that date, i.e., September 26 or 27. She was positive that the visit occurred prior to October 1.[720]

who stated she

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~~It is clear, however, that Oswald could not have been in Dallas on the evening of either September 26 or 27, 1963, and there is considerable evidence that he was not in Dallas anytime between the beginning of September and October 3, 1963. On April 24, Oswald left Dallas for New Orleans, where he lived until his trip to Mexico City in late September and his subsequent return to Dallas. As previously set forth, Oswald is known to have been in New Orleans as late as September 23, 1963, the date on which Mrs. Paine and Marina Oswald left New Orleans for Dallas.[721] Sometime between 4 p.m. on September 24 and 1 p.m. on September 25, Oswald cashed an unemployment compensation check at a store in New Orleans;[722] under normal procedures this check would not have reached Oswald's postal box in New Orleans until at least 5 a.m. on September 25,[723] and the store at which he cashed the check did not open until 8 a.m.[724] Therefore, Oswald's presence in New Orleans until sometime between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. on September 25 seems well established.~~

~~There is no firm evidence of the means by which Oswald traveled from New Orleans to Houston, on the first leg of his Mexico City trip, but a Continental Trailways bus leaving New Orleans at 12:30 p.m. on September 25 would have brought Oswald to Houston at 10:50 p.m. that evening,[725] and his presence on this bus would be consistent with other evidence before the Commission.[726] There is evidence, however, that at 2:35 a.m. on September 26, Oswald boarded Continental Trailways bus No. 5133 in Houston and traveled on this bus to Laredo, Tex. Bus company records disclose that one ticket from Houston to Laredo was sold during the night shift on September 25–26, which was the~~